



# ***EPS Prohibition IBMC 16.16.025 (Fact Sheet)***

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CITY'S PROHIBITION ON POLYSTYRENE PACKAGING MATERIALS. (IBMC 16.16.025)**

### **What is the definition of EPS?**

“Expanded polystyrene” means polystyrene that has been expanded or “blown” using a gaseous blowing agent into a solid foam.

### **Who has to follow the new law?**

All City facilities, City-managed concessions, City-sponsored events, City permitted events, food providers, businesses, vendors.

### **What are the requirements of the new law?**

As of January 2018, the law bans the sale or distribution of the following products made, in whole or in part, from polystyrene foam (so called Styrofoam): Food ware, meat and fish trays, egg cartons, packing materials, coolers (or similar containers).

### **What products are acceptable alternatives to polystyrene foam?**

See the list in the City's web site.

### **How will the law be enforced?**

The City Manager, or designee, is authorized to establish regulations and to take any and all actions reasonable as necessary to obtain compliance with this law, including, but not limited to, inspecting any food providers premises to verify compliance.

### **Are exemptions granted?**

The City Manager may approve an exemption application. Exemption decisions are effective immediately and final and are not appealable.

### **What other cities have banned EPS use?**

More than 100 U.S. cities have ordinances restricting polystyrene food ware and/or packaging materials. There are now 97 cities and counties in California with polystyrene foam bans. The Regional Water Control Board has recognized product bans as an effective way to prevent trash pollution in our waterways.

**Please call the Environmental Division for more information about this ordinance at (619) 424-4095.**